

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 81

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 101

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 81—Relative to transportation.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 8, 2002.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 81, Hollingsworth. Regional transportation corridor: Riverside County and Orange County.

This measure would urge the Department of Transportation and the regional transportation planning agencies to expeditiously consider both alternative transportation corridors between Riverside County and Orange County and taking action to utilize all other modes of transportation.

WHEREAS, Only one major transportation corridor currently links Riverside County with Orange County, despite the fact that over the past decade Riverside County has been the fastest growing county in the state, and its population is expected to double to 3 million citizens in the next 15 years; and

WHEREAS, The existing transportation corridor is critical for the flow of people, goods, and services between Riverside County and Orange County and within the region as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Many of the residents of Riverside County commute to Orange County, therefore adding to this corridor's congestion; and

WHEREAS, A plan to bring one million tons of air cargo to the March Air Reserve Base is currently being drafted, the implementation of the plan will require a reliable transportation system to transport goods and services to distribution centers and metropolitan areas in southern California; and

WHEREAS, Extreme traffic congestion currently plagues the existing transportation corridor, which is ranked at the highest level of congestion according to the Department of Transportation, with expected demand to increase by 40 percent in the next 20 years; and

WHEREAS, The existing transportation corridor between Riverside County and Orange County includes one of the most congested highway facilities in southern California, carrying over 16,500 vehicles per peak hour, while only designed to carry 14,400 vehicles per peak hour, significantly exceeding its capacity; and

WHEREAS, The affected freeway currently experiences over 66,000 vehicle hours of delay per day, significantly increasing the amount of

oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) pollutants and hydrocarbons that are introduced into our air, as well as costing the regional economy up to \$7 million per day in lost opportunity; and

WHEREAS, This freeway congestion and its resulting spillover effect on local streets impede commercial development by causing concern over both the flow of goods and services to, and from, the various establishments and access to a dependable and punctual workforce; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature urges the Department of Transportation and the regional transportation planning agencies to expeditiously consider both alternative transportation corridors between Riverside County and Orange County and taking action to utilize all other modes of transportation, and to follow the current process for adopting transportation funding priorities through the State Transportation Improvement Program; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a copy of this resolution to the Department of Transportation.

